

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted simultaneously with filing of a Request for Continuing Examination, and also responsive to the Office Action of January 16, 2009.

In the Office Action the Examiner expressed her opinion that amended Claim 1 was unpatentable over the DeDaran et al reference in view of the Anthony reference.

The Examiner argued that the DeDaran reference distinguished from amended Claim 1 by a ground face that is located on a further side, diametrically opposite the first side, of the printed board, and by a first connection line and at least one further connection line being fed through in insulated fashion relative to the ground face, wherein the ground face is electrically connected via through-plated holes or via-holes. Furthermore, in the Examiner's opinion these missing features should be disclosed in the Anthony reference.

With the present communication applicants amended Claim 1, the broadest claim on file further. In particular, Claim 1 as amended now defines, in addition to other features, that the through-plated holes

(30) are embodied as via holes (36) and the via holes (36) are electrically conductive sleeves which are filled with a highly conductive metal.

These features are defined in dependent Claim 6 in combination with lines 2-4 on page 5 of the specification.

Turning now to the references, and in particular to the patent to Anthony, the Examiner stated that it disclosed a via-hole (through-hole plating 2020 of aperture 2018 recited in paragraph 109). Applicants have to respectfully disagree with this position for the following reasons.

First of all, the patent to Anthony does not disclose or even suggest that the common ground surfaces 2026 of filters 2012A and 2012B are connected via through-plated holes or via-holes to the metalized ground surface 2016. Secondly, the patent to Anthony does not disclose or even suggest via-holes which are filled with a highly conductive metal in order to guarantee a very low-impedance and thus interference-free connection.

Since the Anthony patent discloses only very small common mode filters 10, 110, 150, 160, 400, 680, 2012, 2012A, 1040 which are built as surface-mounted devices, there would be no need for a very low-

impedance and interference, free connection within the housing of such filters realized by via-holes.

Not only this reference does not disclose and does not teach the above-mentioned new features of the present invention, but as explained hereinabove it teaches away from them.

It is therefore believed to be clear that the patent to Anthony does not disclose the new features of the present invention as defined in amended Claim 1.

The patent to DeDaran also does not disclose the new features of the present invention as defined in amended Claim 1, and therefore any combination of the above-discussed two references would result only in such a device which would not disclose these features as well.

The patent to McNeil also does not teach the new features of the present invention, and therefore the combination of the three references applied by the Examiner would not lead to the applicants' invention as well.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claim 1, the broadest claim on file, should be considered as patentably distinguishing over the art and should be allowed.

As for the dependent claims, these claims depend on Claim 1, they share its allowable features, and they should be allowed as well.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Striker
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 27233